New Ipswich, N. H., Jan. 15, 1844.

Dear George:

Our friend Hammond (whom you are expecting to see at Northampton this week, and under whose hospitable roof I am now abiding, that he may make or canvass another face like unto mine,) is extremely sorry that it will not be in his power to visit you, according to your appointment and his desire, at the present time; but he thinks it is highly probable that he shall attend our annual meeting next week in Boston, where he presumes you will be, and he is calculating that you and James Boyle will make a visit to New Ipswich, immediately after that meeting.

The obstacle that interposes to prevent his going to Northampton, now, is — myself. So, excuse him, and blame me, if you please. You know I have come hither to get, if possible, (what no artist has yet been able to make,) an accurate portrait of the arch incendiary Garrison, in order that an engraving may accompany the volume of my writings, which has been projected by my friend Johnson, but which, I apprehend, will not be very soon completed. Bro. Hammond has artistic genius, but he has lacked the necessary opportunities, means, time and practice, which are necessary to perfect one in so divine an art. He has undertaken the task, in my case, "with fear and trembling," but there is no doubt that he will "work out" a good portrait, that will be deemed worthy of "salvation," rather than destruction. His anxiety to succeed well, however, has served more to embarrass than to aid him; for, after spending three days on his first sketch, he threw it aside, and began another, which,

at the close of the third sitting this day, looks so much like me, that I think none of my friends would need a formal introduction to it. We shall need the remainder of this week to complete it. I have not known how to spare the time; but the great gratification which will be given to my friends, on both sides of the Atlantic, should I be succeed, induces me to be absent awhile from my post. I shall probably be in the city on Friday, but, at farthest, on Saturday evening, if no unforeseen abstacle prevent.

I am very much pleased with Mr. Hammond. He is a most amiable man, modest, quick to discern the truth, prompt to walk in the path of duty, heartily interested in every reform, and anxious to promote the welfare of mankind. He has genius accompanied with perseverance, and will yet shine as an artist, should scope be given to his efforts. He seems to be strongly inclined to join your Association, and will certainly be a valuable member, should he do so.

Mrs. Hammond is a very interesting woman, of excellent good sense and pleasing manners, a thorough-going reformer without fanaticism, as cheerful as a canary-bird, and a first-rate wife. This is her native place — here she has always lived — here she was married — here she is comfortably situated — and here are her relations, friends and acquaintance. Hence, it is not surprising that she rather hesitates in regard to removing to Northampton, especially as she has no personal knowledge of your operations. If he shall decide to go, however, she

will readily go with him. They are now living in a sweet little cottage, which he erected several years ago, and on which he will have to make a considerable sacrifice, in case he sells it.

Friend Hammond has drawn the plan of a Community House, which he will show and explain to you, either at Boston or here. As a great deal depends on that structure, I hope no pains will be spared to make it in a high degree attractive and convenient. Deliberate well before you decide, and consult the best models to be found either in theory, or in actual existence.

I hope you will not fail to be at our annual meeting. We have engaged the State House for two evenings, and shall hold one other meeting either in Faneuil Hall or the "Miller Tabernacle."

A letter which I have just received from Oliver Johnson informs me that all at home are as well as usual. Little Charlie has been somewhat ill with teething, and Angy has had an attack of fever, but they were both on the recovery.

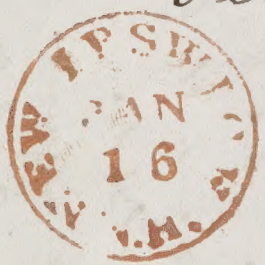
Remember me with brotherly love to Catharine, and affectionately to the children. I wish the friends connected with the Association to be assured, that I feel a special interest in their welfare, and shall gladly avail myself of every convenient opportunity to say a good word in behalf of your reformatory enterprise. May love and peace abound among you all. Please give my regards to Mr. and Mrs. Mack, Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Boyle and sister, &c.

Yours, lovingly,

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

Single.
12½

George W. Benson,

Northampton,

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